



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/821,855	04/12/2004	Naoki Morikawa	251681US6	1745
22850	7590	08/15/2006	EXAMINER	
C. IRVIN MCCLELLAND OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			CAO, ALLEN T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2627	

DATE MAILED: 08/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/821,855

Applicant(s)

MORIKAWA, NAOKI

Examiner

Allen T. Cao

Art Unit

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

1. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

a) The term “an” in front the phrase “engaging hole” in claim 1, lines 12 and 13; and in claim 10, lines 13 and 14 should be changed to ~~the~~ or ~~said~~ because “an engaging hole” was introduced previously in claims 1 and 10, respectively.

b) The term ~~operation~~ should be added after the term “chucking” in claim 1, line 23 and claim 10, line 24, respectively.

c) The term “an” in front of the phrase “initial position” in claim 5, line 4; claim 6, line 2; claim 14, line 4; and in claim 15, line 2 should be changed to ~~the~~ or ~~said~~ because “an initial position” was introduced previously in claims 1 and 10, respectively.

d) The phrase “an elastic member” in claim 9, line 4 and claim 18, line 5 should be either changed to ~~the elastic member~~, ~~said elastic member~~, or ~~a second elastic member~~ because “an elastic member” was introduced previously in claims 1 and 10, respectively.

e) The phrase “a rack” in claim 7, line 2 and claim 16, line 2 should be changed to ~~the rack~~ or ~~said rack~~ because “a rack” has been introduced in claims 1 and 10.

f) The phrase “a disk” in claim 8, line 2 and claim 17, line 2 should be changed to ~~the disk~~ or ~~said disk~~ because “a disk” has been introduced in claims 1 and 10.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

2. Claims 1-18 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record neither discloses nor suggests a chucking device for a disk player having combination limitations structural including a motor; a drive gear driven by the motor; a slider; a rack member arranged so as to have an engaging hole as well as to overlap the slider, and connected to the slider with an elastic member therebetween slidably relative to the slider, the rack member having a rack to be mated with the drive gear; and a lever rotatably arranged so as to intersect the rack member and also having a pin engaging with the engaging hole of the slider and with the engaging hole of the rack member; wherein the engaging hole of the rack member comprises a first recess for forward moving the rack member relative to the slider during forward moving and a second recess for holding the slider at an initial position with the pin of the lever therebetween by intersecting the engaging hole of the slider when the slider located at the initial position, and wherein the slider is forward moved via the rack member by the drive gear for chucking operation while the slider is backward moved by the drive gear for canceling the chucking operation, as set forth in claims 1 and 10.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit: 2627

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Allen T. Cao whose telephone number is (571) 272-7569. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs (7:30 - 6:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa T. Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Allen Cao
Primary Examiner

AC
August 8, 2006